



United States Department of State

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(x of 6-3) /*

July 9, 1984

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State Dept. review completed

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Chairman, DCI Security Committee
Central Intelligence Agency

FROM:

David C. Fields
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security

SUBJECT:

Community Physical Security Against
Terrorism and Other Attacks (U)

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1. (U) Please refer to your 3 May memorandum, subject as above, to SECOM members and the Chairman, Physical Security Working Group, and subsequent discussion on this topic at the June SECOM meeting.

2. (U) As Chairman of the Overseas Security Policy Group (OSPG), I would like to clarify for you the role of the OSPG and suggest what OSPG members believe to be a prudent and productive, cooperative OSPG-SECOM relationship relative to the subject issue. My purpose is to prevent misunderstanding and potential inter-committee functional conflict likely to produce unnecessary duplication of effort within the community.

3. (S) The OPSG was convened in August 1983, with a charter for "establishing uniform standards and agreements on issues affecting the security of U.S. Government personnel and facilities abroad." Membership consists of the Security Directors of Community members with overseas security responsibilities. Since its inception, the OPSG has met on a monthly basis and focused upon all aspects of overseas security, including physical security, information security, residential/personal security, technical countermeasures, and security support systems/communications for U.S. Missions

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abroad. The Group has established comprehensive multi-disciplinary goals and divided into sub-groups to develop specific plans and procedures for the consideration and action of the entire OSPG.

4. (S) A primary OSPG thrust has been directed toward counterterrorism within the physical/procedural security framework. Our approach has been to recognize the significant initiatives of individual member organizations in developing physical security/counterterrorism programs for overseas facilities and personnel. Starting from this base, the OSPG draws together these efforts: by developing common security planning and policies for shared overseas facilities; and by providing a continuing forum for collective consideration and exchange of information on threat and practical countermeasures.

5. (S) We wholeheartedly agree that unified budgetary support for overseas security, and particularly physical security, is needed. However, we believe that the impression conveyed concerning current threat assessment and protection deficiencies is too gloomy. At least five years ago the Department of State began the preparation of a threat category list to aid us in identifying high threat posts. This was begun to more closely match problems and resources. This list is updated quarterly and is based on the analysis of all available intelligence data. The OSPG has promoted the sharing of protective techniques and attempted to develop a common approach to security policies and procedures. For example, we already have drafted detailed policies covering personal and residential security. We are also developing common guidelines on physical security of shared overseas facilities and preparing milestones for implementation of these guidelines.

6. (U) It is not our intention to usurp SECOM tasking or obviate your role. On the contrary, we believe that the OSPG can provide a valuable service to SECOM by eliminating duplicative effort and by providing you with the results of our efforts. The fact that OSPG membership virtually mirrors that of SECOM makes this effort to avoid duplication of effort particularly valid. I propose that we provide SECOM with OSPG-developed draft standards and policies and give SECOM a briefing on the OSPG. In the future we can keep SECOM closely advised of our progress, and participate in joint SECOM-OSPG budgetary issues.

7. (U) Please contact me to arrange for further discussions and coordination on this issue.

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